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# HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

City and County of San Francisco

London N. Breed, Mayor

The seal of the City and County of San Francisco is a large, faint watermark in the background. It features an eagle with wings spread, perched atop a shield. The shield is supported by two figures: a Native American on the left and a Minuteman on the right. Below the shield is a banner with the motto "EUREKA". The outer ring of the seal contains the text "SEAL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO".

## *African American Reparations Advisory Committee*

### *Meeting Minutes*

March 13, 2023

5:30 p.m.

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For more information, contact the Commission Secretary at 415-252-2500  
Agenda and other information are available on the HRC website: [www.sfgov.org/sfhumanrights](http://www.sfgov.org/sfhumanrights)

**Meeting was called to order at 5:32pm.**

**1. 1:19 CALL TO ORDER AND COMMITTEE ROLL CALL** (*Action Item*)

**Present:** Eric McDonnell, Tinisch Hollins, Gloria Berry, Rev. Dr. Amos Brown, Gwendolyn Brown, Tiffany Carter, Nikcole Cunningham, Anietie Ekanem, Laticia Erving, Omerede “Rico” Hamilton, Daniel Landry, James Lance Taylor, Starr Williams

**Absent:** Shakeyla O’Cain

Meeting was called to order with 13 Committee Members present.

**2. 5:35 LAND AND ANCESTRAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** (*Discussion Item*)

- Anietie Ekanem read the Ancestral Acknowledgement.
- Tinisch Hollins read the Land Acknowledgement.

**3. 7:35 UPDATES TO AFRICAN AMERICAN REPARATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAFT REPORT** (*Discussion and Possible Action Item*)

This is time for members of the public to share new recommendations for the final San Francisco Reparations Plan, including any updates to the eligibility requirements.

**Presentation:** **Eric McDonnell**, Chair, African American Reparations Advisory Committee, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

**Tinisch Hollins**, Vice Chair, African American Reparations Advisory Committee, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

**Public Comment**

Ace Washington, Jonathan Bohannon, Malik Senerefu, LaDonna Williams, Alyssa Jones Garner, Lorna Hawkins, Ryan Jones, Alicia Mayo, Oscar James, Renard Monroe, India Price, Tracy, Cheryl Thornton, Gregory Joe Bledsoe, Shervon Hunter, Brenda Barros, Dr. Carolyn Ransom Scott, Fredrick Martin, Ron Carter, Reverend Tony Pierce, Lonnie Mason, Marcus Evans, Martha Keller, Linda Parker Pennington, Diane Poole, Chester Williams, Madeline Howie, Dr. Monique LeSarre, David Bishop, Linda Martley Jordan, Leilani, Shavone Allen, Safi,

**Committee Comment**

Tinisch Hollins made a motion that the recommendations listed in the recommendation document be moved to subcommittees for review and adoption in the April 10, 2023 meeting.

2<sup>nd</sup> Nikcole Cunningham

**Voted in the Affirmative:** Eric McDonnell, Tinisch Hollins, Gloria Berry, Rev. Dr. Amos Brown, Gwendolyn Brown, Tiffany Carter, Nikcole Cunningham, Anietie Ekanem, Laticia Erving, Omerede “Rico” Hamilton, Daniel Landry, James Lance Taylor, Starr Williams

**Absent:** Shakeyla O’Cain

Motion carried with 13 votes.

Committee Discussion about Eligibility and action.

- Reparations programs should also be payable to those native San Franciscans forced from the city by adverse housing and tenant policies, gentrification, and ongoing racist policies, i.e. redlining, affordable housing, redevelopment, eviction, Hope SF, the false narrative that affordable housing and the housing lottery (will trickle down to us), and also meet the requirements that this harm also happened between 1940 and 1996.

Motion to adopt language, *“With an agreement to continue discussion @ 1996 eligibility end date. 1<sup>st</sup> Gloria Berry. 2<sup>nd</sup> Nikcole Cunningham;*

*Motion adopted by acclamation.*

- When one discusses Reparations we must consider a number of factors. One factor that must be addressed is the Union Army soldiers who fought for their own freedoms.  
*Added this to history section of the report.*
- There needs to be a distinction between African Americans and immigrants/descendants of immigrants. These payments need to go directly to African Americans.  
*Added to the eligibility requirements.*
- Research language used from 1940 thru 1996 on government documents for review and addition – *review in the Policy Subcommittee.*
- Member Landry requested that the staff and members will research language used on local, state, and federal government documents describing Black/African American people in the eligibility section to be as inclusive as possible.
- Motion to adopt language, *“An individual born in SF and displaced by the child welfare system should be eligible. including those coming out of the foster care system.” 1<sup>st</sup> Member Cunningham, 2<sup>nd</sup> Member Carter; Motion carried unanimously.*

#### **4. 2:26 2023-2025 BUDGET ADVOCACY (Discussion Item)**

Deadline with to meet with Mayor’s office by April 7, 2023

**Presentation:** Joseph Sweiss, Commissioner, San Francisco Human Rights Commission  
Human Rights Commissioner and Chair of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex + Advisory Committee presented on identifying budget priorities, presenting them to the Mayor’s Office and Board of Supervisors to be included in the annual budget.

Commissioner Sweiss will agendize an item at the next LGBTQI+ Advisory Committee formally supporting the final recommendations of the African American Reparations Advisory Committee.

### **Committee Comment**

- Tinisch Hollins moved to the Directors of the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development, Homelessness and Supportive Housing to the April, 2023 meeting to present on housing access for Black San Franciscans. Gwendolyn Brown moved to amend that motion and added an invitation to the Department of Public Health and Human Services Agency to present on their investments in the Black community and in Black people. Chair Eric McDonnell moved to amend and have some present in April and some in May. Tiffany Carter moved to amend and include the Planning Department in the presentation on housing access. Gwendolyn Brown moved to amend and include the Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure in the housing presentation. *1<sup>st</sup> Tinisch Hollins, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gloria Berry; Motion carried unanimously.*

**Public Comment:** Ace Washington, unknown commenter, Jonathan Bohannon, Alicia Mayo, unknown commenter, Darold Williams, Cheryl Thornton, Renee Tucker, Jasmine Robinson.

### **5. 3:23 CHAIR REPORT (Discussion Item)**

**Presentation:** Eric McDonnell, Chair, African American Reparations Advisory Committee, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

**Tinisch Hollins,** Vice Chair, African American Reparations Advisory Committee, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

- a. AFRICAN AMERICAN REPARTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAFT REPORT LISTENING SESSIONS.**
- b. UPDATE ON SEAT 15 NOMINATIONS TO THE AFRICAN AMERICAN REPARATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**
- c. UPDATE ON THE MARCH 14, 2023 PRESENTATION TO THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

The Chair and Vice Chair will report back on their work representing the African American Reparations Advisory Committee since the February 13, 2023 meeting.

**Public Comment:** Libba Shephard, Alicia Mayo,  
**Committee Comment**

### **6. 3:37 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (Discussion Item)**

Members of the public may address the Advisory Committee on matters that are within the Reparations jurisdiction and are not on today’s agenda. Speakers shall address their remarks to the Committee as a whole and not to individual Committee Members or Department personnel.

Unknown commenter, Trevor, Oscar James, Libba Shepard, Dominic Anthony, Leilani L., Alicia Mayo, Tina Bullon.

**7. 3:53 ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2023 MEETING RECORDING AND TRANSCRIPTION**  
*(Discussion and Possible Action Item)*

Review and anticipated adoption of video recording and minutes of the African American Reparations Advisory Committee's February 13, 2023 meeting.

**Motion to approve February 13, 2023 Meeting Recording and Transcription:**

1<sup>st</sup>: Reverend Dr. Amos Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Anietie Ekanem

Recording and Transcription affirmed by acclamation.

**8. 3:55:03 ADJOURNMENT**

Transcription of the meeting minutes are available upon request to the Committee Secretary, reparations@sfgov.org.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:31pm.